REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-7 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1 and 7 being independent.

The independent claims have been amended to further distinguish Applicants' invention from the cited art.

The amendments to the claims were not presented earlier as it was believed that the previously presented claims would be found allowable. This Amendment does not add any additional claims. Moreover, the Examiner's familiarity with the subject matter of the present application will allow an appreciation of the significance of the amendments herein without undue expenditure of time and effort. Finally, the Amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration or search. Accordingly, it is believed that entry of the Amendment is appropriate.

Claims 1 and 3-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Omae '283 in combination with Hardt '901 and Matsumoto '190. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 of Applicants' invention relates to a projection display apparatus comprised of a display panel, a circuit board provided with a drive circuit, and a projection lens provided with a projection lens for projecting an enlarged image onto a screen. Claim 1 also includes a holder fixed on the circuit board for holding the display panel and provided with a connector connected to second electrodes of the circuit board and with positioning means for positioning the holder and the projection lens support. First electrodes of the display panel and the second electrodes of the circuit board are electrically connected via the connector of the holder by pressing the display panel against the holder to bring the first electrodes into contact

with the connector, and the projection lens support is positionally aligned and connected with the display panel via the holder by the positioning means for optical alignment of the projection lens. Claim 1 has been amended to further include shift registers disposed along four sides of the display panel, and converters for converting digital signals to analog signals, with the converters being disposed along opposite two sides of the substrate along which the first electrodes are not disposed.

Claim 7 relates to a projection display apparatus that includes a display panel comprising a rectangular substrate having four sides, a circuit board provided with a drive circuit for driving the display panel, a projection lens support provided with a projection lens for projecting an enlarged image onto a screen, and a holder for holding the display panel and provided with positioning means for positioning the holder and the projection lens support. The projection lens support is positionally aligned and connected with the display via the holder by the positioning means, and the display panel and the projection lens support are integrally fixed on the circuit board by a fixing screw. As in Claim 1, the projection apparatus of Claim 7 has been amended to include shift registers disposed along four sides of the display panel, and converters for converting digital signals to analog signals, with the converters being disposed along opposite two sides of the substrate.

Support for the amendments to the claims can be found, for example, in Figure 11 and the accompanying specification on page 27, line 15, et seq.

The primary citation to Omae relates to a polymer dispersion liquid crystal panel for use in a television. The television includes a light source 171, a projection lens 174 and a screen 176 (see Figure 21).

The secondary citation to Hardt relates to an LED indicating light assembly and was cited for its teaching of a socket structure. Figure 2 of Hardt shows a socket structure 100 that mechanically holds a conventional LED device 46a and molded plastic lens members 48a, 48b.

The tertiary citation to Matsumoto relates to a liquid crystal display device and was cited for its teaching of a connector 4 for connecting electrodes of a display panel and electrodes of a circuit board. Figure 2 of Matsumoto shows the connector 4 to be supported on a circuit board 5 and having a conductive contact 4a for contacting a signal input electrode 1a of a liquid crystal panel 1.

Initially, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to combine the references in the manner suggested in the Office Action for the reasons set forth in the previous Amendment of February 20, 2003. Nonetheless, even assuming, arguendo, the art could have been combined as proposed in the Office Action, such a combination still fails to teach or suggest a projection display apparatus that includes, among other features, shift registers disposed along four sides of a display panel substrate and digital to analog converters disposed along opposite two sides of the substrate as set forth in Claims 1 and 7. With this arrangement, a versatile and economical projection display apparatus can be provided.

The proposed combination of art also fails to teach or suggest, among other features, positioning means for positioning the holder and a projection lens support as recited in Claims 1 and 7. The Office Action asserts (on page 3 and again on page 5) that the socket structure 100 and socket cavities 128 and 130 in the Hardt patent are "functionally equivalent" to the projection holder and positioning means. In response to this assertion, it is respectfully submitted that the socket cavities in Hardt are understood to receive molded plastic lens members

48a and 48b. The socket cavities therefore do not position the socket structure (i.e., holder) and the projection lens support, and thus are not the "functional equivalent" of the comparable features of Applicants' claimed invention.

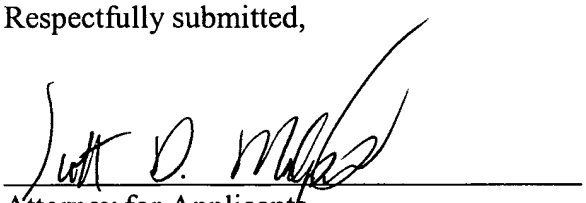
For at least the reasons set forth above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Therefore, it is submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 1 and 7 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 4-6 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Scott D. Malpede
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
SDM\mm
DC_MAIN 160228v1